IN FED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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United States Attorney Southern District of New York

86 Chambers Street New York, New York, 10007

April 28, 2008

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BY FACSIMILE

Hon. Naomi Reice Buchwald United States District Judge Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse 500 Pearl Street, Room 2270 New York, NY 10007

Re:

Lamb v. Potter, 08 Civ. 0477 (NRB)

Dear Judge Buchwald:

This Office represents defendant John E. Potter, Postmaster General of the United States, in the above-captioned employment discrimination action filed by <u>pro se</u> plaintiff Addys Lamb ("Lamb"). This Office was served on February 28, 2008. I write to request a thirty-day extension of time, from April 28, 2008, to May 28, 2008, to respond to the complaint. I request this extension because I require additional time to review the file and prepare a response. Because plaintiff is proceeding <u>pro se</u>, I have not attempted to obtain his consent. This is the defendant's first request for an extension.

In addition, I note that Lamb has been granted permission to proceed in forma pauperis ("IFP"). However, in his affidavit in support of his request to proceed IFP (a copy of which is enclosed), Lamb stated that he earns \$4,000 per month in wages, \$1,700 per month in social security benefits, \$700 per month in "other source[s]" of income, and owns a condominium worth \$650,000. As courts in this District have noted, "[t]he ability to proceed IFP is a privilege provided for the benefit of indigent persons." Cuoco v. U.S. Bureau of Prisons, 328 F. Supp. 2d 463, 467 (S.D.N.Y. 2004). To discourage abuse of this privilege, the IFP statute provides that "notwithstanding any filing fee, or any portion thereof, that may have been paid, the court shall dismiss the case at any time if the court determines that . . . the allegation of poverty is untrue."

Id. (quoting 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(a)). If, as appears to be the case from his own disclosures, Lamb has income of over \$6,000 per month and owns a condominium valued at \$650,000, the Government respectfully requests this extension of time to evaluate whether to move to dismiss the complaint on this independent basis.

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I thank the Court for its attention to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL J. GARCIA
United States Attorney for the

Southern District of New York

By:

DAVID BOBER

Assistant United States Attorney

(212) 637-2718

Addys Lamb (via regular mail)

cc: